Vote Record

Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and Government Operations

Date: 3-21-00 Moved by: 5B: 4B: 5B: 5JR: 4S: 5R:	129	Seconded by: Clearinghouse Rule: Appointment: Other:	Moore
A/S Amdt: A/S Amdt: A/S Sub Amdt: A/S Amdt: A/S Amdt: A/S Amdt:	to A/S Amdt: to A/S Sub Amd to A/S Amdt:		to A/S Sub Amdt:
Passage Introduction Adoption Rejection		Indefinite Postpon Tabling Concurrence Nonconcurrence Confirmation	
Committee Member Sen. Robert Wirch, Chair Sen. Gwendolynne Moore Sen. Richard Grobschmidt Sen. Gary Drzewiecki Sen. David Zien			Absent Not Voting
	Totals:		<u> </u>

Motion Carried Motion Failed

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(Street Address or Route Number)

(City and Zip Code)

(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:

Speaking Against:

but not speaking: Registering in Favor:

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only; Neither for nor against: Speaking for information

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SENATE HEARING SLIP

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12/8 DATE:

56 429 BILL NO.— SUBJECT Sec. Brenda Blanchard NAME

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21 March 2000	VO. STS 429	NAME) 22 N. Carroll St. #103 (Street Address or Route Number)	Malison We 53703 (City and Zip Code) [W] Tedminal College District (Representing) (3011/4) Speaking in Favor: Speaking Against:	Registering in Favor: but not speaking: Registering Against: but not speaking:	Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:
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WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

16 North Carroll Street Suite 200 Madison, WI 53703-2783

Rolf Wegenke, Ph.D. **President**

Telephone (608) 256-7761 Fax (608) 256-7065 E-mail: waicu@edgewood.edu

MEMORANDUM

Date:

March 21, 2000

To:

Members

Senate Economic Development, Housing and Government Operations Committee

From:

Rolf Wegenke, Ph.D., President

Wisconsin Association of Independent

Colleges and Universities

Subject: SB 429/AB833 - High Technology Businesses

Wisconsin's economy is in the midst of being transformed into a knowledge-based economy. In large part, this fundamental shift is being driven by the rapid advances in technology. Between 1996 and 2006, it is estimated that more than 1.3 million jobs requiring computer and information technology skills will be created by the U.S. economy.

Before coming to the world of higher education, I coordinated economic development in the administrations of five Wisconsin governors. From my perspective, it is clear that maintaining a competitive economy in the 21st Century, will require innovative thinking and enhancing the ability of businesses, government, and institutions of higher learning to work collaboratively with one another. The creation of a Technology and Entrepreneurs Council is one way in which the state can foster such alliances. By recognizing the important public/private sector partnerships, Wisconsin can aggressively develop and attract new opportunities for its economy.

The recent announcement by Procter and Gamble, Co. to donate 40 patents and accompanying intellectual property to the Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE) is an example of how these important partnerships between business and education can work. MSOE was selected from institutions throughout the U.S. by an independent expert to receive the technology for development because of the university's world-class leadership in rapid prototyping technology. While the development of the P&G patents will further enhance the educational experience for students, the company is helping to advance knowledge and put technology to productive use before it becomes obsolete and, best of all, it is taking place in Wisconsin.

WAICU supports SB 429 and the amendment offered by Representative Rhoades to the companion legislation (AA1 to AB 833) which would include a private college and technical college representative on the Council. The amendment is supported by the administration, and I urge the Senate to adopt similar language (see attached).

It is said that generals often "fight the last war." The same dangerous potential exists for businesses, governments, and individuals alike. It is so easy to be overwhelmed by what is "in our face" that we devote all of our attention and most of our resources to the immediate problem. SB 429 is about the future. It is about positioning Wisconsin to be competitive in the economy of the 21st Century.

ALVERNO COLLEGE Milwaukee BELOIT COLLEGE Beloit CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY Milwaukee CARROLL COLLEGE Waukesha CARTHAGE COLLEGE Kenosha CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Mequon EDGEWOOD COLLEGE Madison LAKELAND COLLEGE sheboygan LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY Appleton MARIAN COLLEGE Fond du Lac MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY Milwaukee MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING MILWAUKEE MOUNT MARY COLLEGE Milwaukee MOUNT SENARIO COLLEGE Ladysmith NORTHLAND COLLEGE Ashland RIPON COLLEGE RIPON ST. NORBERT COLLEGE De Pere SILVER LAKE COLLEGE Manitowoc VITERBO COLLEGE La Crosse WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE Milwaukee

1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

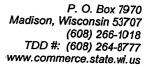
ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1, TO 1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 833

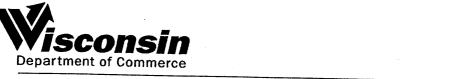
March 16, 2000 – Offered by Representative RHOADES.

- Page 3, line 17: before "and at" insert "the director of the technical college
 system board, or his or her designee, the president of the Wisconsin Association of
 Independent Colleges and Universities, or his or her designee,".
 - **2.** Page 3, line 18: delete "9" and substitute "7".

6 (END)

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Tommy G. Thompson, Governor Brenda J. Blanchard, Secretary



Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and Government Operation Committee Hearing Room 300, Southeast March 21, 2000

Thank you Chairperson Wirch and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and Government Operation for today's hearing.

Wisconsin's economy is strong and the world economy around us is changing rapidly. Wisconsin's economy is changing, too. As Governor Thompson noted in the 2000 State of the State Address:

Already, the race is on to see which state will create the Silicon Valley of 2000 and put its people out front with exciting and lucrative new career opportunities. As one of the top 10 technology states in America, Wisconsin is uniquely positioned to lead the pack.

He introduced to us many of the faces of Wisconsin's future:

- Lance Fors, CEO of Third Wave Technologies
- Michael Sussman, Founder of Nimblegen
- Bob Bremel, Gala Design
- Mark Clark, Vienna Pharms
- Joel and Jeff Henschel, two Green Bay dairy farmers
- Shirley Lanier, Founder of Legacy Bank in Milwaukee
- David Schwartz, University of Wisconsin Biotechnology Center

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce is assisting the change in many ways. The 1999-2001 budget provided new resources for technology development, such as:

- A science and technology consultant position in Commerce, and
- \$1 million for the Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership to provide professional assistance to small and medium manufacturers to help them develop and implement strategies to improve their competitiveness.

This past fall, we began operating the Certified Capital Company (CAPCO) program. Commerce has certified three venture capital firms that will manage \$50 million of certified capital investments contributed by insurance companies. The firms will invest in Wisconsin businesses.

Commerce has begun a number of initiatives to increase the amount of venture capital available and to provide valuable assistance to fast, growing companies in the state. Other state agencies, including the Investment Board and the University of

Wisconsin System, are assisting in this area, as well as individuals and organizations in each of your communities.

However, we need a coordinated initiative across Wisconsin to generate interest and additional resources, avoid duplication of efforts, and ensure increased visibility. In Governor Thompson's 2000 State of the State Address, he introduced the idea of a Wisconsin Technology and Entrepreneurs Council (WITEC) — the idea incorporated into Assembly Bill 833 and Senate Bill 429.

The Wisconsin Technology and Entrepreneurs Council (WITEC), a private/public partnership, will aggressively attract and develop the companies of the new economy. WITEC will be governed by a board of directors comprised of at least 11 members who represent entrepreneurs, high tech firms, venture capitalists, investment banking, local government, business development, and professionals experienced in providing services to these groups. The secretary of Commerce and the president of the UW System will also serve on the council.

Some of the tasks the Council will focus on immediately are:

- Strengthen and expand the state's venture capital fair;
- Identify and educate angel investors;
- Develop and foster a Wisconsin entrepreneurs network; and
- Facilitate and support a strong relationship between the University System and the private sector.

Representative Rhoades and Senator Clausing's legislation creates a new annual GPR appropriation to provide assistance to the WITEC. From this appropriation, the Department of Commerce will provide in the first year an initial grant of \$50,000 followed by dollar for dollar matching funds up to a maximum of \$200,000. In subsequent years, each dollar donated will be matched by the state, up to a maximum of \$250,000.

Thank you again for the opportunity to discuss the initiative. I look forward to continuing to work with you on this and other economic development projects in the state and in your communities.